**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-3, 5, and 8.

Please amend the claims as follows:

4. (Amended) A kit for diagnosing an autoimmune [diseases] disease, the kit comprising:

[at least one of] a first antigen comprising a polypeptide [selected] from an HMG-1 family [, a polypeptide selected from an HMG-2 family,] or a fragment [thereof which is reactable with an antibody of an autoimmune disease patient, wherein when the polypeptide is neutrophil 28kDA, the autoimmune disease is not ulcerative colitis] of a polypeptide from the HMG-1 family;

a second antigen comprising a polypeptide from an HMG-2 family or a fragment of a polypeptide from the HMG-2 family;

a first component for detecting a first antigen-antibody complex;

a second component for detecting a second antigen-antibody complex; and

an instruction protocol for correlating the detection of either or both of the first antigen-antibody complex and the second antigen-antibody complex with the autoimmune disease, wherein the autoimmune disease is selected from the group consisting of human systemic lupus erythematosus, Sjögren's syndrome, Behçet's disease, scleroderma, primary biliary cirrhosis, microscopic polyangitis/polyarteritis nodosa, ulcerative colitis, Chrohn's disease and autoimmune hepatitis.

6. (Amended) [A] The kit [for diagnosing for autoimmune diseases according to] of claim 4, wherein:

the polypeptide from an HMG-1 family is selected from human, bovine, porcine, chicken, mouse, or rat HMG-1; and

the polypeptide from an HMG-2 family is selected from human, bovine, porcine, chicken, mouse, or rat [or] HMG-2.

7. (Amended) A method for [detecting an antibody of autoimmune disease] diagnosing an autoimmune disease in a patient, the method comprising the step of detecting one or more antibodies in the patient by contacting [reacting] a reagent [including] with antibodies from the patient, the reagent comprising at least one polypeptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide [selected] from an HMG-1 family, a polypeptide [selected]

from an HMG-2 family, and a fragment [thereof which] of a polypeptide from the HMG-1 family or the HMG-2 family, wherein

the at least one polypeptide reacts [is reactable] with an antibody of an autoimmune disease patient, and

[wherein when the polypeptide is a neutrophil 28kDA antigen, the autoimmune disease is not ulcerative colitis] the autoimmune disease is selected from the group consisting of human systemic lupus erythematosus, Sjögren's syndrome, Behçet's disease, scleroderma, primary biliary cirrhosis, microscopic polyangitis/polyarteritis nodosa, ulcerative colitis, Chrohn's disease and autoimmune hepatitis.

9. (Amended) [A] The method [according to] of claim 7, wherein:

the polypeptide from an HMG-1 family is [selected from] human, bovine, porcine, chicken, mouse, or rat HMG-1; and

the polypeptide from an HMG-2 family is human, bovine, porcine, chicken, mouse, or rat [or] HMG-2.

Please add new claims 10-13 as follows:

--10. (Added) A method of diagnosing an autoimmune disease in a patient, the method comprising:

detecting the presence or absence in the patient of antibodies to HMG-1, HMG-2, or both HMG-1 and HMG-2; and

diagnosing the autoimmune disease based on the antibodies detected, wherein the autoimmune disease is selected from the group consisting of human systemic lupus erythematosus, Sjögren's syndrome, Behçet's disease, scleroderma, primary biliary cirrhosis, microscopic polyangitis/polyarteritis nodosa, ulcerative colitis, Chrohn's disease, and autoimmune hepatitis.

11. (Added) A method of diagnosing the cause or prognosis of an ulcerative colitis patient, the method comprising contacting antibodies isolated from the patient with a polypeptide selected from an HMG-2 family, or an effective fragment thereof, wherein the polypeptide or fragment reacts with an antibody to HMG-2.